

MINUTES

CEDAR VALLEY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Wednesday, February 27, 1991

7:00 P.M.

This meeting was called to order by Chairman Brent Jones. He then asked Secretary LaRee Garfield to read the Minutes of the 1990 meeting. A discussion of the Minutes was held and the following corrections were made. On page 3 of the Minutes in the third paragraph, Joe Melling said that it is the State Road which has the problem of cleaning under the bridge. On the same page, in the fourth paragraph, the irrigation companies were set up some 127 years ago, rather than 27 years ago as was recorded in the Minutes. With these corrections, Bud Garfield moved for approval of the Minutes, Joe Melling seconded; Minutes approved as corrected.

Chairman Jones then asked Lee Sim from the State Division of Water Rights to discuss the 1990 Financial Statement. Mr. Sim stated that at the beginning of 1990, we had \$7,618.26 in our trust account. We collected \$9,176.28 in regular assessments, \$118.78 in delinquent penalties, and we earned interest in the amount of \$629.37, for a total of \$9,924.43. Our expenditures totaled \$8,545.66, leaving a balance of \$8,997.03 as of December 31, 1990. This was an increase of approximately \$1,400.00. The 1990 Budget shows expenditures which were made from the Budget. There was an overage on retirement because we did not set up an item in the budget for retirement. We had \$107.34 remaining in the budget at the end of the year. Arlen Grimshaw asked what "contractual expenses" were, and Commissioner Mel Baldwin reported that this amount was taken from his salary to pay for Rue Gene Rollo who acted as Mel's assistant.

The Delinquent Accounts were discussed, and the following accounts should be removed: #10B, #10D, and #23A. We had a total of \$149.84 in delinquent accounts which is very small. Chairman Jones called for a motion to accept the 1990 Financial Report. Tom Cardon moved for acceptance of the Report, Rod Brady seconded; motion carried.

Chairman Jones then asked Commissioner Mel Baldwin to present his 1990 Commissioner's Report. He stated that in 1990, the stream flow again was below normal, but it was better than the previous year. Stream Flow was approximately 16,800 acre feet compared to last year's 10,600 acre feet and 1988 run off of 32,000 acre feet. Coal Creek peaked at approximately 142 c.f.s. on April 28, 1990 and held up quite well until late May. In 1989 it peaked at approximately 125 c.f.s. and in 1988 approximately 680 c.f.s. Several things need to be done to improve the dividing and measuring of water, and the most pressing problems are as follows:

1. The split where the North Field, Union Field and the Bulldog ditch divide, especially the Union Field side where the banks have mashed the sides of the parshall flume in and the flume itself seems to have settled so that it is impossible to measure the water accurately.
2. The measuring devices on the Union Field and Bulldog are unreadable.
3. There is no way of reading the amount of water going to Coal Creek Irrigation Company.
4. The list of broken meters is growing. Some of these have been broken for some time.

Approximately 3100 miles were traveled, reading meters and checking diversions to regulate the water. A great deal of time has been spent preparing the report and updating previous information and data files. Chairman Jones then called for any questions or comments regarding the Report. Paul Nelson asked if there was a plan to fix the weirs so that the water could be read, and Mr. Jones said that there is no plan in place for the repairs. He said that everyone was waiting to see what would happen with the desilting device, and no one wanted to spend the money to make the repairs. Each field is responsible to make the necessary repairs and adjustments so that the readings can be taken accurately. Lynn Nelson said that the design of the present devices are adequate, but they need to be repaired. Bud Bauer commented that a ruler has been used in the past and that this method works all right. Kerry Carpenter said that sometimes it is necessary to have a conversion table, and then an accurate reading can be taken with a ruler. Paul Nelson said that Union Field would be interested in fixing theirs, but it won't do any good unless the other fields also repair theirs. Bud Bauer said that if Union Field did fix theirs, it would do some good, because they are not getting the water they deserve. Mel Baldwin said that the flume has caved in, and it is 30 inches at the top. Lee Sim asked if there were any struts at the top, because if there were struts there, it should solve the problem. Dave Hatch asked what could be done to make the water more equitable coming down the ditch. Lynn Nelson said that water should be measured at the weirs and not at the headgates. Rue Gene Rollo suggested that they ask John Esplin from the Soil Conservation to take some shots of the problem areas and tell them what is wrong in each instance, and then have them fixed. The water users could pay for the repairs to all three of the problem areas. This should be done before the water comes in the ditch. Bud Garfield moved that we follow Rue Gene's suggestion and have John Esplin define the problems for us and that the cost for repairs be divided between the fields involved; Bud Bauer seconded; motion carried. Chairman Jones asked Mel Baldwin to get in touch with John and have him take care of this. Bud Bauer moved for approval of the Commissioner's Report; Arlo Carter seconded; motion carried.

Chairman Jones then stated that it was necessary to establish the budget for 1991. Lee Sim explained the change in the retirement policy. The policy now is that in order for a river commissioner to participate in the retirement program, they have to be making at least \$550.00 per month. Last year, part way through the year, Mel was put on the system, but this year, his salary would have to be raised to \$6,624.00 in order for him to participate in the retirement system. Mr. Sim said that they could open an Individual Retirement Account for him, but it would have to be paid out of his salary. The other change in the budget is that the bonding expense has gone up to \$100.00 instead of the previous amount of \$50.00. Tom Cardon asked what participation in the retirement program would mean to a commissioner, and Mr. Sim said that a commissioner needs to be on the system for at least five years before he would be paid a benefit, and after that it would amount to about 2% a year. Bud Bauer moved that we not participate in the retirement program; Mike Slack seconded; motion carried. Chairman Jones then called for preparation of the budget. Arlen Grimshaw moved that we set the budget at \$8,924.00; Mike Slack seconded; motion carried. Tom Cardon moved that we set the assessment the same as the budget; Rod Brady seconded; motion carried.

Chairman Jones then asked for recommendations for a Commissioner for 1991. Earl Kenney moved that Mel Baldwin remain as the Commissioner; Mike Slack seconded; motion carried. Bud Garfield said that he would like to express appreciation to Mel for accepting the position at the salary we had recommended.

Chairman Jones then said that we need to elect a Chairman and three board members for 1991. Brent Jones is the present Chairman, with Bud Garfield, Howard Nelson, and George Vandenberghe as Board Members. Lynn Nelson nominated Paul Nelson as a Board Member; Bud Bauer seconded. Bud Bauer nominated Brent Jones as Chairman; Dave Hatch seconded. Tom Cardon nominated Bud Garfield as a Board Member; Thelmer Stratton seconded. Bud Bauer nominated Tom Cardon as a Board Member; Arlen Grimshaw seconded. Wallace Heap moved that nominations cease; Mike Slack seconded; motion carried.

Dave Hatch asked what had happened with the desilting system, and Joe Melling said that the ASCS has designed the system, and it has been given to the various irrigation companies. Paul Nelson said that the ASCS office has come up with a system to put in at the present diversion, and John Esplin is working up a cost estimate, and then the decision will be made as to how the water will be divided between the companies and the shareholders, and then the companies will decide if they want to spend the money for the system. The proposed system at the power plant site would cost too much, so the plan was designed to start at the present diversion. Joe Melling said as water users, we all need to work together to get the Commission to declare where the natural channel is, and then Coal Creek would do what the other irrigation companies are doing.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion for adjournment. Joe Melling so moved. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.